

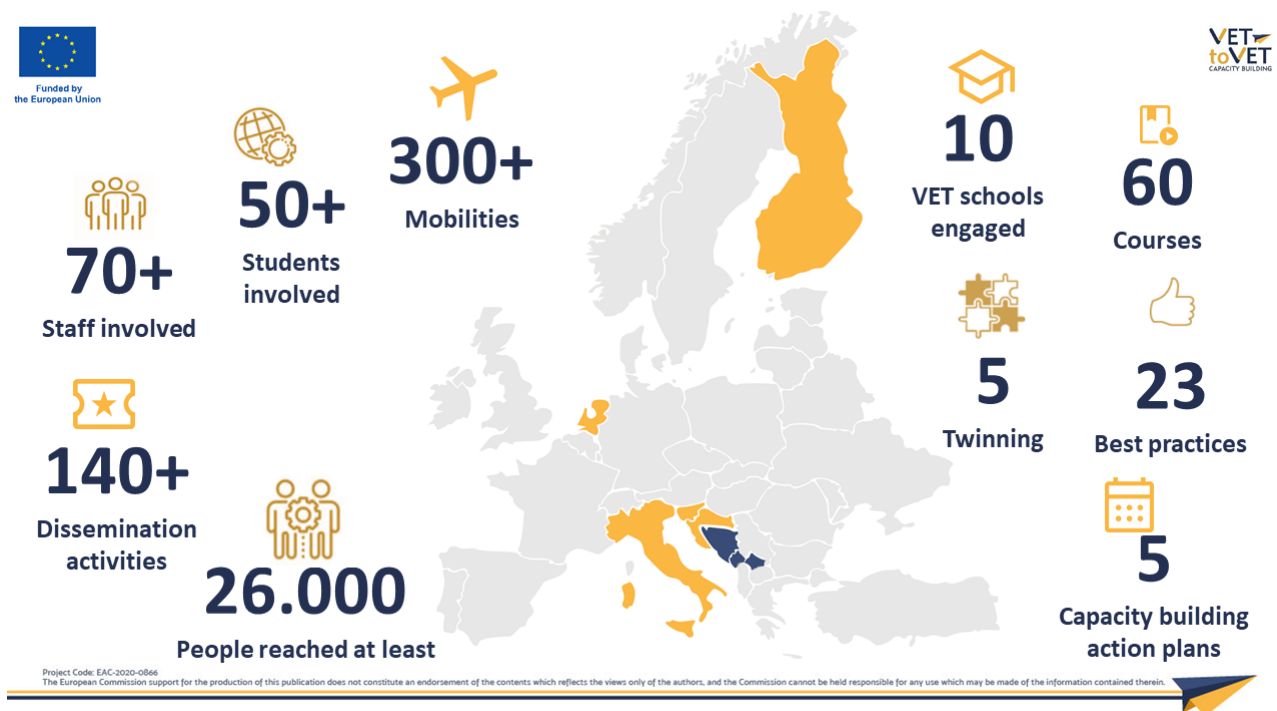
Newsletter about Internationalization

Issue 5 - May 2024

Looking back at V2V; VET to VET – Capacity Building in the Western Balkan

5 years ago, 10 partners, 5 from EU, 5 from West Balkan set out to create a Capacity Building project on VET. It was a new ERASMUS project form and gave us new possibilities to work on the content and structure of VET and also to share experiences, possibilities and ideas on international mobility for students and staff.

After 41 months we can look back on an amazing cooperation between 5 EU countries (Italy, The Netherlands, Finland, Slovenia and Croatia) and 3 WB countries (Kosovo, Montenegro and Bosnia-Herzegovina). We worked hard on creating useful and well organized international mobilities, (long term) cooperation between partners, Best Practices, Communities of Practice, newsletters, presentations, reporting and on understanding EU rules and obligations. In addition to that, we had a lot of fun! We learned so much from each other and from the different systems and approaches in VET. But the best result is the memory of our wonderful collaboration in this project, despite the cultural differences and challenges.





Study visit Groningen

From February 3rd to February 17th, 2024, ten students from SSSK in Sarajevo, accompanied by the school principal and a teacher, had the extraordinary opportunity to embark on a study visit to Groningen, Netherlands.

The primary aim of this visit was to broaden the students' horizons by immersing them in a new culture, facilitating firsthand experiences, and fostering intercultural understanding. Throughout the journey, they embraced the opportunity to expand their knowledge, explore new surroundings, and engage with Dutch culture. Among the many places the students visit, was the soccer stadium in Groningen. Student Amar Hadžić about this visit: "Never before have I gotten a chance to visit a football stadium in such detail. Witnessing the logistics behind not only filling up all of those seats but also getting drinks and food to all the spectators was interesting. Maybe one day I'll watch a match from one of those VIP lounges."



Its safe to say that the visit was a great succes. This was made possible by the exceptional guidance and hospitality of host Minke, whose warm welcome and meticulous planning ensured a seamless experience for all involved.

Thank you to everyone who supported and contributed to the success of this visit. Together, we have created lasting impressions and invaluable experiences that will undoubtedly shape the future endeavors of the students involved. For a more detailed review of the visit, have a look at the articles on sskskola.edu.ba ("[Short Mobility](#)", "[Study Visit](#)", "[Study visit to the Netherlands](#)")



Vocational Practice in Alba

Students from JU SMŠ "Danilo Kiš" from Budva went to a third round of vocational practice in Italy. Thanks to our wonderful partners from Apro Formazione, this was the largest group so far. Eight students out of wich 7 are gastronomy students and one tourism technician with one teacher spent 26 days in Alba.

They had the opportunity to improve their knowledge and gain some new exciting experiences. Some of them had the opportunity to visit Horeca fair in Turin, to visit nearby castles, and Saturday market in the city center.



Cooking teacher Ivana had the job shadowing activity in Apro Formazione, she had some master classes with well-known Michelin star Cheff. Also prepared the lunch with the first-year gastronomy students and gave a lesson about Montenegrin cuisine.



This communication reflects the views only the author's view, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein





Student & staff visit to Finland

Four Center of Competence (CoC) Ferizaj students and two teachers were on a mobility period in Sedu in March 2024. The teachers for one week and the students for four weeks. The teachers supported the start of the students' period and visited in different campuses. During these visits, Sedu's educational offerings and practical learning environments were introduced, as well as new learning technology, such as the use of VR and AR in teaching. In addition, they visited a local care unit for the disabled. CoC teacher Ilirjana Mehmeti: "During our stay in Sedu, we experienced and were involved in the virtual training program of Module It! It was an interesting and very exciting training course on how VET students and teachers can cooperate with international peers online and use their digital skills and motivate students through digitalization"



During the mobility period, Kosovar students attended classes at school and completed a work-based learning period at workplaces. Nursing students participated in practical nurse group classes where they learned basic nursing skills and met Kosovar students studying at Sedu. The students got to know Finnish work culture at workplaces. "During this month, I had an amazing time soaking up Finnish culture and getting a deep dive into how their healthcare system works. But what really blew me away was how Finland treats people with disabilities. Their system isn't just about giving them a place to stay—

it is about giving them a real shot at living life to the fullest", nursing student Olisa Krasniqi tells. Kosovar students also introduced their home country to Finnish students. They did so through a presentation that aroused the interest of the students and generated a lot of questions and discussion.

Both the students and the staff of Sedu were satisfied with the result of the mobility period. "My experience in Sedu was one of the best things that has happened in my life. I learned so many things, met so many new people and learned about their culture. It was an incredible opportunity to not only expand my knowledge but also foster a deeper sense of empathy and understanding for others. Going to Seinäjoki was a chance to live life to the fullest and create memories that I can never forget", Food and Diet student Agnesa Haziri tells.

The project ends but CoC will keep on developing their vocational education with the gained knowledge. "We are thankful to the EU, European partners of the project for this opportunity, and particularly our twinning partner Sedu for the commitment and patience we achieved in each activity. Based on my experiences of mobility during this period in Finland and the entire project activities, we strengthened and increased the knowledge on best practices of capacity building and implementing several professional developments. You realize that with the results we achieved, we can have great opportunities to cooperate and to be part of the international projects in the future", local project manager Ilirjana Mehmeti highlights the results of the project.



This communication reflects the views only the author's view, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein





Conference Ljubljana

The project's final meeting was held in Ljubljana on April 16th, 2024, hosted by Strokovni izobraževalni center Ljubljana. After the opening remarks from SIC principal dr. Nikolaj Lipič, Slovenian Erasmus+ office representative Urška Slapšak, Ministry of Education of Slovenia representative mag. Branka Hrast Debeljak and project manager Alessia Riccardi, the final conference included keynote speakers from ETF, Xarxa FP, AlbanianSkills,

EfVET, Erasmus+ office in Montenegro, JU SMŠ Danilo Kiš Budva, the Erasmus+ office in Kosovo, the Erasmus+ office in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Foreign Trade Chamber of BiH and the Bosnian Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation. In the afternoon, a panel discussion was held, with Western Balkans discussing managing mobility, job shadowing and training, communities of practice, international conferences, exploitation events and sustainability.

On April 17th, 2024, a final project meeting was held, discussing next steps and outlining tasks and responsibilities until the formal conclusion of project activities.



This communication reflects the views only the author's view, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein

